



# Preparing for 2028: Showcasing Your Neighborhood's Historic and Cultural Assets

Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner  
Office of Historic Resources

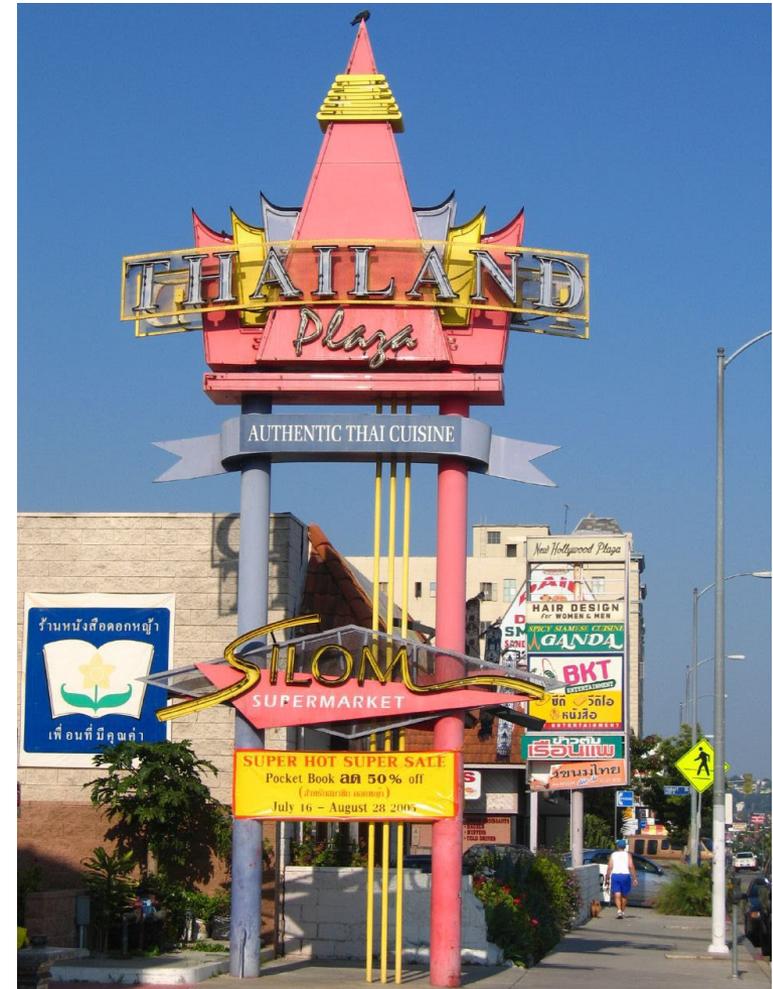
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# Closing Ceremonies, Paris 2024



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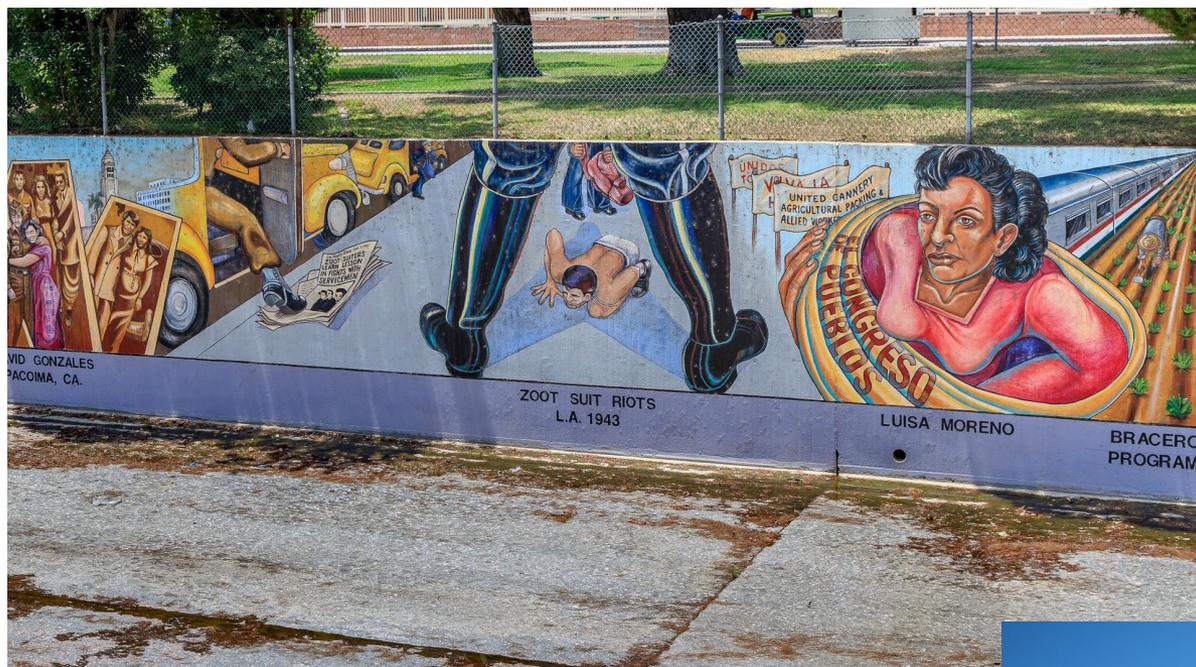




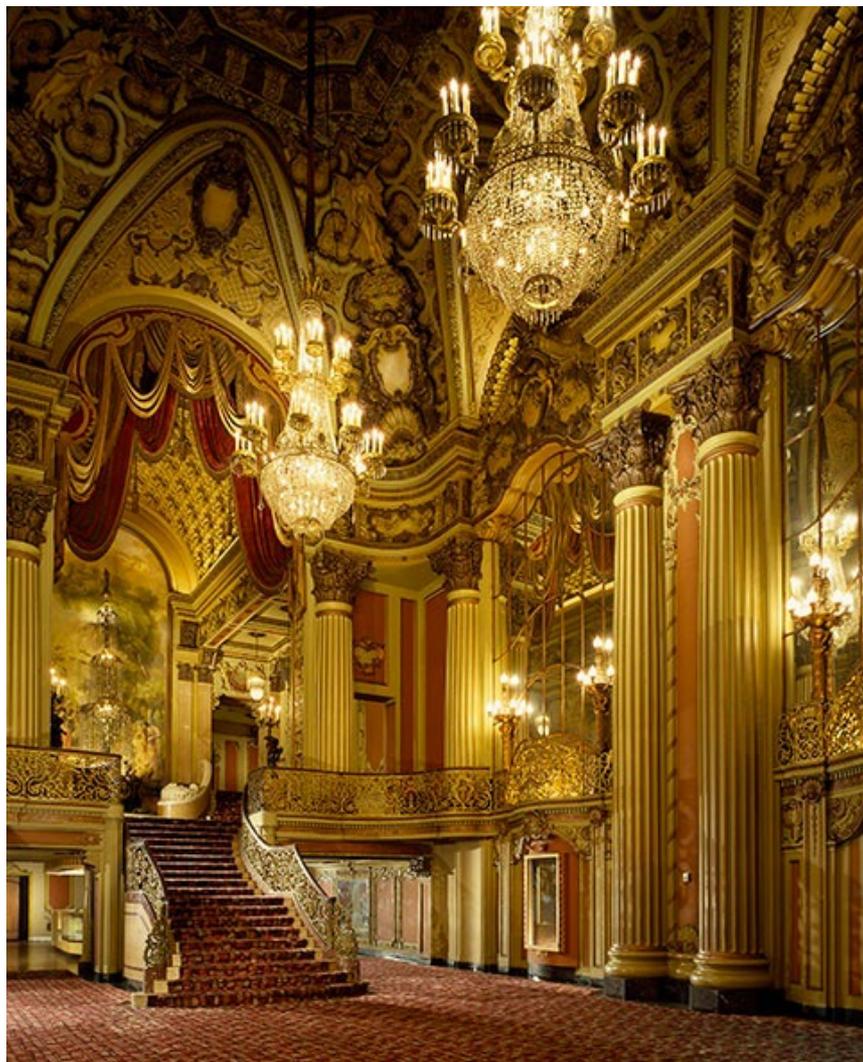
















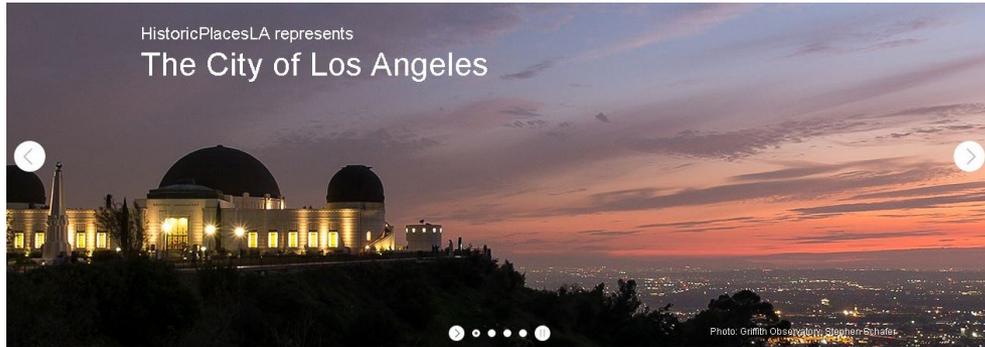
# SurveyLA

## Los Angeles Historic Resources Survey

- Multi-year historic resources survey of Los Angeles
- Joint grant project of the City and the Getty
- First citywide survey of Los Angeles
- Largest survey completed in the U.S.



# HistoricPlacesLA



## HistoricPlacesLA

HistoricPlacesLA is the first online information and management system specifically created to inventory, map and help protect the City of Los Angeles' significant historic resources. It showcases the city's diversity of historic resources, including architecturally significant buildings and places of social importance, as well as historic districts, bridges, parks, and streetscapes.

## Featured Searches

View our current featured searches of historic resources in Los Angeles



Modernism in LA



The Entertainment Industry

Pre-1900



Powered by **Marches** | LANGUAGES | ADMIN LOGIN

HOME ABOUT SEARCH MAP VIEW

5310 Laurel Canyon Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 91607

5313 N VANTAGE AVE Historic Resource

**Resource Type**  
Residential-Multi Family, Apartment House, California OHP Resource  
Attribute - HPD3. Multiple family property

**Address**  
5313 N VANTAGE AVE

**Designations**  
None specified

Close View Report

Basemaps Overlays

Map Zoom: 18 Cursor: (long,lat)



# African American Historic Places, Los Angeles



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 6, 2021  
planning.media@lacity.org  
(213) 978-1248

## Getty and Los Angeles City Planning Launch African American Historic Places Project

*Project will identify, protect, and celebrate the city's Black heritage*



St. Elmo Village, est. 1969, Mid-City. Photo: Elizabeth Damsels, © J. Paul Getty Trust.  
St. Elmo Village, an artists' enclave occupying a compound of ten small Craftsman bungalows in a colorful garden setting, was founded in 1969 by artists Rodenick and Kozell Sykes as a place where children and adults could explore their creativity. Since then, St. Elmo's—incorporated as a nonprofit in 1971—has hosted art workshops, festivals, and other programs to benefit the community and engage local youth.



# Mellon Foundation Grant: HistoricPlacesLA Revealed

- \$500,000 grant to support creation of 140 historic markers
- Physical markers in public right-of-way with QR codes linked to HistoricPlacesLA
- Focus on Los Angeles' Latino heritage
- Significant community engagement planned to select locations

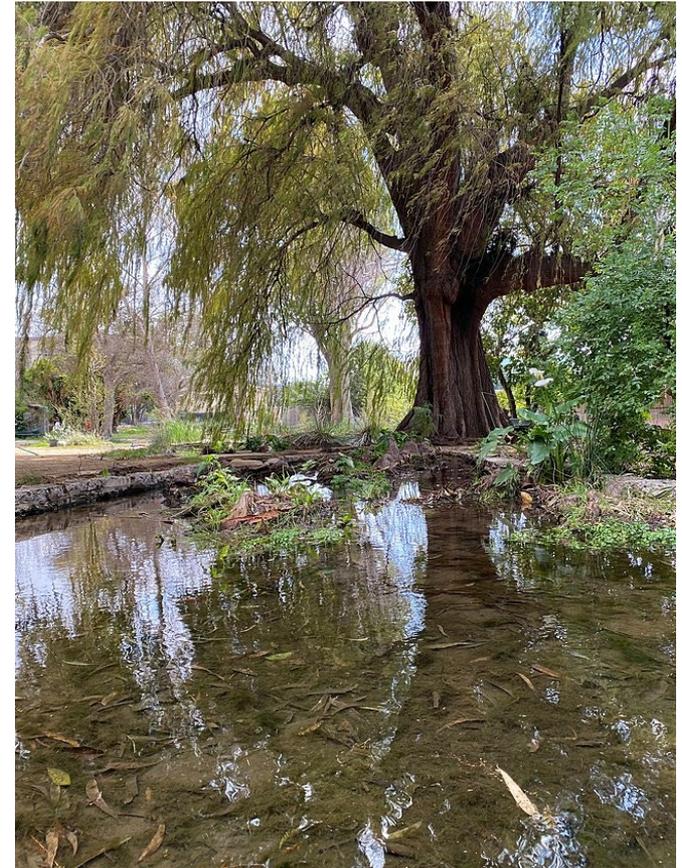


# Ethnic/Cultural Historic Contexts in SurveyLA

- **African American Historic Context Statement**
- **Asian American Historic Context Statement**
  - Chinese Americans in Los Angeles
  - Japanese Americans in Los Angeles
  - Korean Americans in Los Angeles
  - Filipino Americans in Los Angeles
  - Thai Americans in Los Angeles
- **Jewish History Context Statement**
- **Latino Los Angeles Historic Context Statement**
- **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Historic Context Statement**
- **Women's Rights in Los Angeles Historic Context Statement**

# First Peoples of Los Angeles Historic Context Statement

- Published 2025
- Guides future identification of and consultation on tribal cultural resources
- Gabrieleno Tongva and Fernandeno Tataviam tribe contributed their own narratives



Gabrieleno Tongva Sacred Springs: West LA

# How Should We Share Our L.A. Stories and Cultural Districts?



## Panel Speakers

- Karen Mack, LA Commons
- Russell Brown, Friends of Residential Treasures, Los Angeles (FORT:LA)



**LA**commons

creating cultural connections



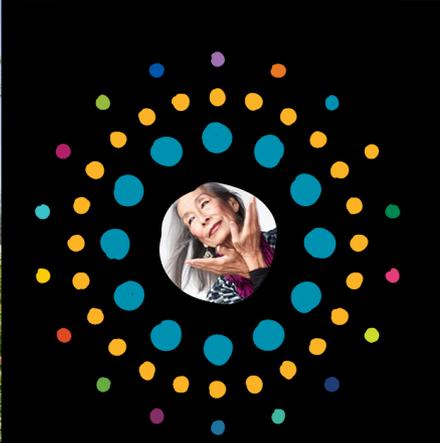
# Our Mission

We engage communities in artistic and cultural expression that tells their unique stories and serves as a basis for dialogue, connection and a shared understanding of Los Angeles.





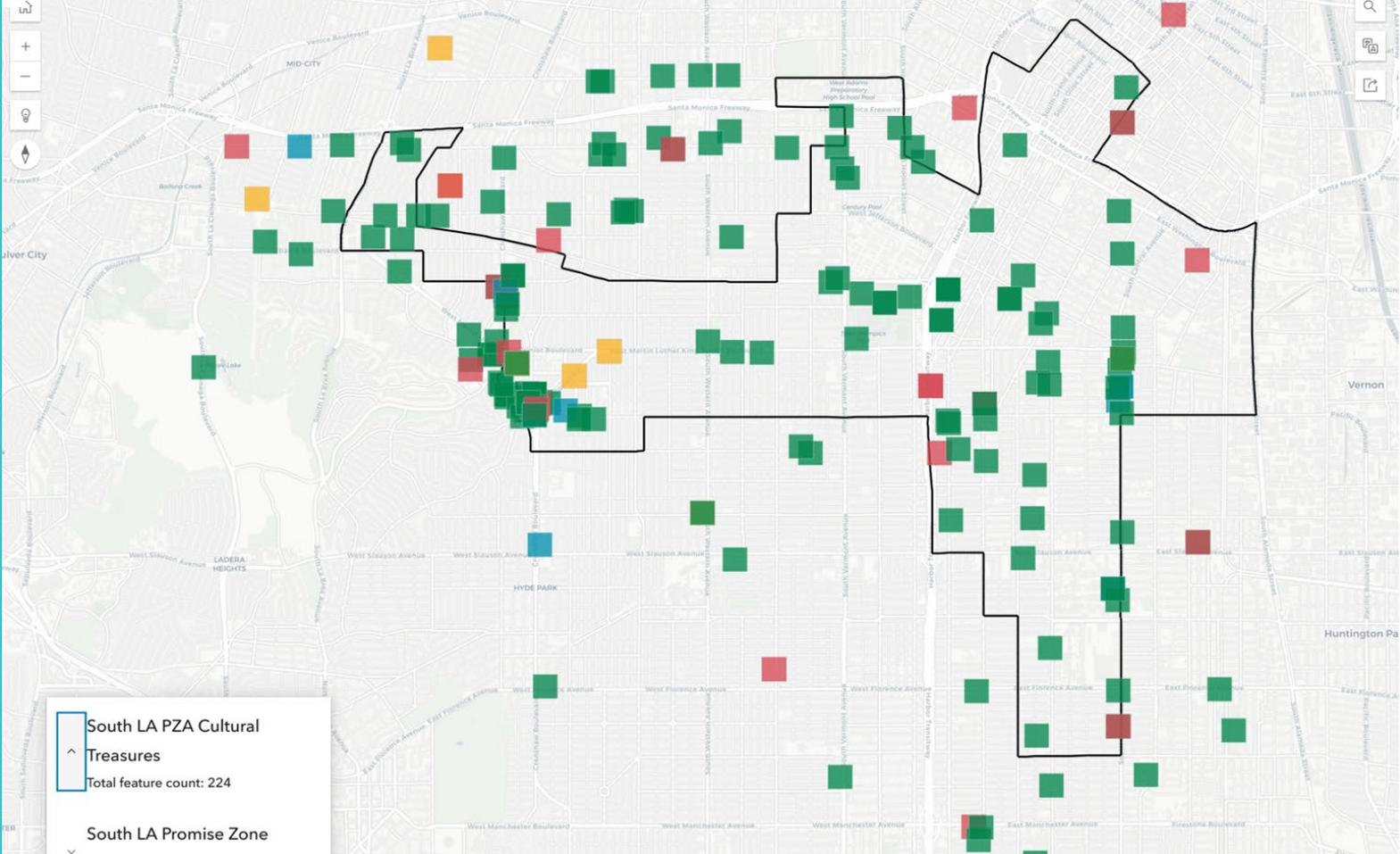
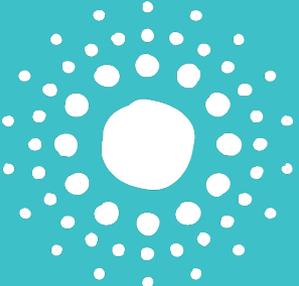




# CULTURAL TREASURES OF SOUTH LA

A PROMISE ZONE ARTS INITIATIVE





# Historic South LA Black Cultural District Map

## Key Cultural Assets

- 1 27th Street Bakery
- 2 African American Cultural Center
- 3 Black Panther Party, SoCal - former
- 4 Brotherhood Crusade
- 5 California African American Museum
- 6 California Eagle Office - former
- 7 Community Coalition
- 8 Destination Crenshaw
- 9 First African Methodist Episc. Church
- 10 Harold & Belle's
- 11 Leimert Park Village Plaza
- 12 Lincoln Theater
- 13 Lula Washington Dance Theatre
- 14 Museum of African American Art
- 15 Nipsey Hussle Mural
- 16 Second Baptist Church
- 17 Simply Wholesome
- 18 Slauson Super Mall
- 19 South LA Cafe
- 20 Southern California Library
- 21 Barbara Morrison Perf. Arts Center
- 22 The Beehive
- 23 The Historic Dunbar Hotel
- 24 Vision Theater
- 25 Wilfandel Club House
- 26 William Grant Still Art Center



HISTORIC SOUTH LA

# Black Cultural District



*Melissa Taylor*

IT'S OFFICIAL 🎉



# California Cultural Districts



**Centering a community-driven approach to supporting and building cultural, social and physical infrastructure that uplifts the authentic stories, cultures, and identities of Los Angeles neighborhoods.**

**LA Cultural Districts Network**





## Strengthening Our Communities Through Cultural Districts

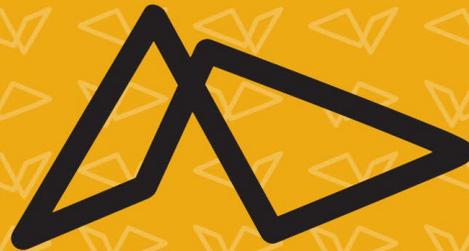
- **Social Infrastructure: Culture as a Catalyst for Healthy Neighborhoods**  
Our work begins with people—their stories, their histories, and their dreams for their communities. Shared narratives are the foundation for strong community connections.
- **Physical Infrastructure: Reclaiming Space for Culture and Belonging**  
We seek to integrate spaces for cultural participation and furthering belonging into the city's capital infrastructure investments. We have a unique moment to address local physical infrastructure needs that both support the neighborhoods and enhance their ability to host visitors
- **Cultural infrastructure: Places, Practices and Policies Enabling People to Remain Rooted**  
We recognize investing in culture is integral to long-term community resilience providing the foundation of anchoring institutions, a tool for strengthening local identity, and a force for building power among residents to sustain the spaces, traditions, expressions and relationships that constitute the recipe for thriving places.

**LA Cultural Districts Network**

## **The Opportunity Provided by LA 2028 and Other Upcoming Mega-Events**

- Enable those who know the city best to share their stories and serve as guides to their own communities.
- Help Los Angeles' culturally and historically significant communities make themselves more visible and legible, facilitating exploration by both international visitors and Angelenos.
- Capitalize on the upcoming mega-events to jump-start the creation of a robust network of LA's culturally significant neighborhoods that can endure beyond 2028.

**LA Cultural Districts Network**



**FORT**  
**LOS ANGELES**



**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

Witch House - Page 1  
Witch House - Page 2  
Witch House - Page 3  
Witch House - Page 4  
Witch House - Page 5

**WITCH HOUSES 2:  
FAIRYTALES, CASTLES  
AND COTTAGES**

This Trail is Sponsored by Elisabeth Halperin

**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

Clara House - Page 1  
Clara House - Page 2  
Clara House - Page 3  
Clara House - Page 4  
Clara House - Page 5

**MODERNISM REVISITED:  
NEUTRA, SCHINDLER AND AIN  
IN SILVERLAKE**

This trail is sponsored by the houses of Jacobson Altschuler, their 20th Anniversary event and the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs. Trail designed by David Chou and Steve March and the award-winning design of a 3D3 Architecture studio by Anthony Davis. [www.3d3.com](http://www.3d3.com) for more information.

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LOS ANGELES

View Park - Page 1  
View Park - Page 2  
View Park - Page 3  
View Park - Page 4  
View Park - Page 5

**THE EXTRAORDINARY  
LEGACIES OF VIEW PARK**

A Walk with Views

**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

Henry House - Page 1  
Henry House - Page 2  
Henry House - Page 3  
Henry House - Page 4  
Henry House - Page 5

**CIVIL RIGHTS HOUSES**

This Trail is sponsored by Patricia Fraser Chase, Dorly Coim and Linda Kandel.

**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

Case Study House - Page 1  
Case Study House - Page 2  
Case Study House - Page 3  
Case Study House - Page 4  
Case Study House - Page 5

**THE ORIGINS AND EFFECTS  
OF THE CASE STUDY  
HOUSE PROGRAM**

**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

Greene & Greene - Page 1  
Greene & Greene - Page 2  
Greene & Greene - Page 3  
Greene & Greene - Page 4  
Greene & Greene - Page 5

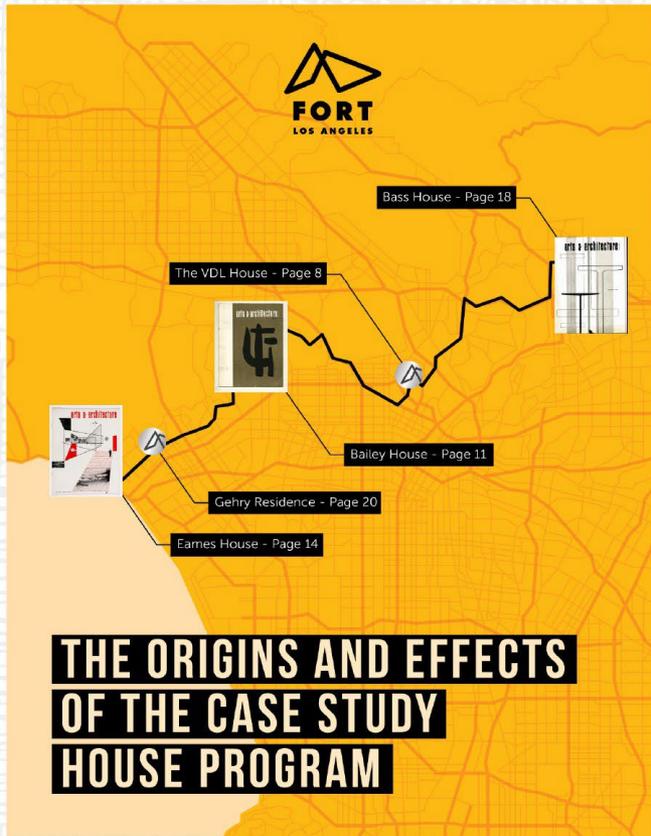
**THE TRAIL:  
5 GREAT MULTIFAMILY  
COMPLEXES IN LA**

**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

Greene & Greene - Page 1  
Greene & Greene - Page 2  
Greene & Greene - Page 3  
Greene & Greene - Page 4  
Greene & Greene - Page 5

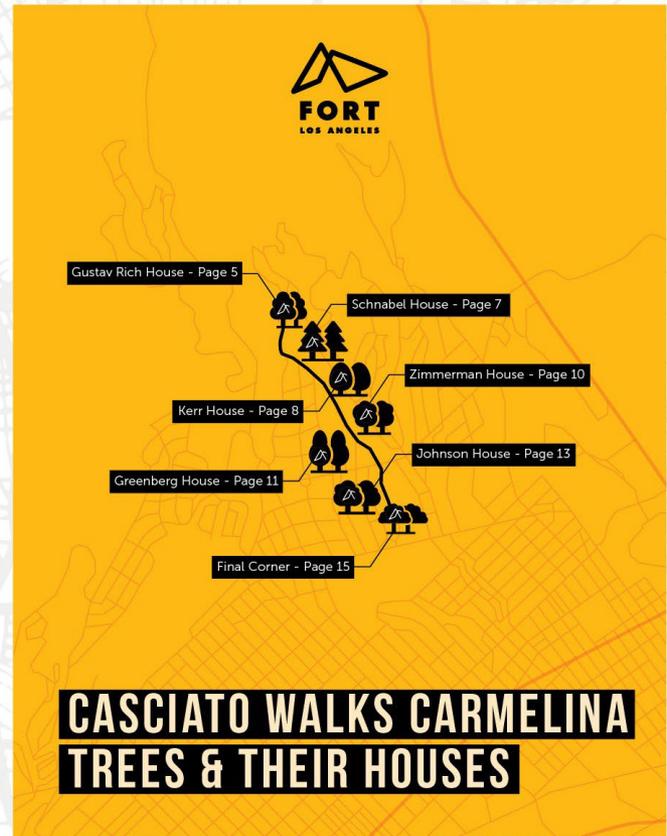
**UNEXPECTED  
GREENE & GREENE**

This trail is sponsored in honor of Zack Szymanski



# THE ORIGINS AND EFFECTS OF THE CASE STUDY HOUSE PROGRAM

# CASCIATO WALKS CARMELINA TREES & THEIR HOUSES





# DISCOVERY CENTER

*Compiled by the FORT: LA Research Team*

## CONTENTS:

FACTS AND FIGURES

ORAL HISTORIES AND OWNERS

RESOURCES AND PRESENTATIONS

TALES AND TIMELINES

SPRING 2023



**Frances Anderton**

Awesome and Affordable:  
Great Housing Now!

SPRING 2023



**Madelene Dailey**

Stories of Sugar Hill

FALL 2021



**Anthony Fontenot**

The Radical Practice of James H. Garrott: Civil  
Rights Activist and Modernist Architect

SPRING 2021



**Jackson Loop**

The Lasting Effects of the Home Owners' Loan  
Corporation Redlining Map

FALL 2020



**Rafael Fontes**

Do Not Go Gentle...  
Tracing the work of Frank Israel

FALL 2020



**Chris Smith**

Dreams of Dodge:  
Rebuilding a Lost Legend

SPRING 2020



**Curtis McElhinney**

Five Houses by Hunt

SPRING 2020



**Jenna Snow & Andrea Thabet**

A Women's Project: Mary Louise Schmidt and the  
1936 California House and Garden Exposition

FALL 2019



**Sian Winship**

Japanese American Architects in  
Los Angeles: 1945 - 1970

FALL 2019



**Liz Falletta**

In the City was a Garden: South Los Angeles  
Garden Apartments, 1941-1953

# REBEL ARCHITECTS

FROM VENICE TO THE WORLD STAGE



PAIRING WINE AT THE GASPARD HOUSE



About the Gaspard House



About the Sommelier



An Interview with the Sommelier



The Wines

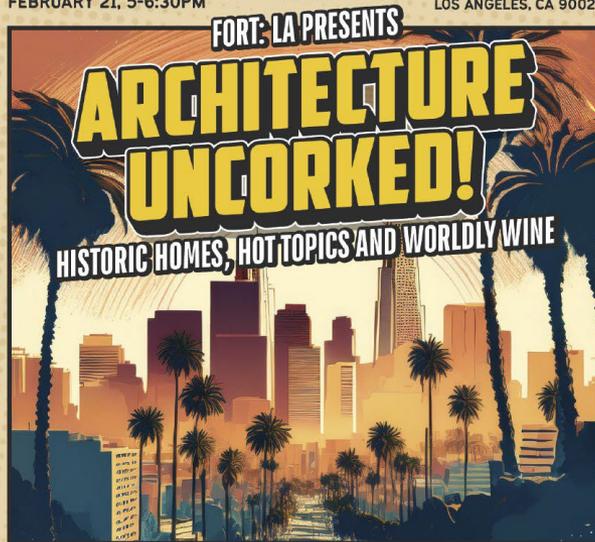


INDIA MANDELKERN

EDITION 6:  
FEBRUARY 21, 5-6:30PM



BARNSDALL GALLERY THEATRE  
4800 HOLLYWOOD BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90027



**SPEAKERS**

- HEATHER GOERS ON THE ARCHITECTURE OF ENCHANTMENT: THE LIFE AND WORK OF ARTHUR AND NINA ZWEBELL
- SHANE REINER-ROTH ON YESTERDAY'S TOMORROWLAND: LA FUTURES THAT NEVER WERE
- INDIA MANDELKERN PAIRS WINE TO MATCH THE ZWEBELL SPELL

SCAN THE CODE  
TO SIGN UP



THE BARNSDALL GALLERY THEATRE IS A FACILITY OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND IS LOCATED ON THE ANCESTRAL AND PRESENT HOMELAND AND UNCEDED TERRITORY OF TONGVA, GABRIELENO, CHUMASH PEOPLE. CARPOOLING OR RIDE SHARE ENCOURAGED!

FORT: LA Presents

# THE BI-EGGNOG-LE: FROM LA TO VENICE (AND BACK AGAIN)

Celebrating LA's voice at  
the Venice Biennale, in holiday spirit.



BARNSDALL GALLERY THEATRE  
4800 HOLLYWOOD BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90027

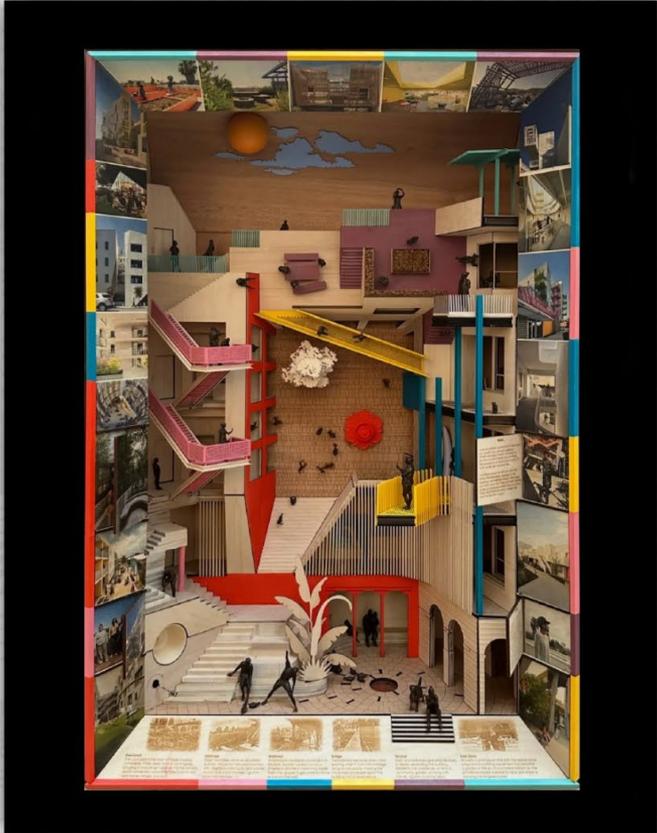
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

THE BARNSDALL GALLERY THEATRE IS A FACILITY OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND IS LOCATED ON THE ANCESTRAL AND PRESENT HOMELAND AND UNCEDED TERRITORY OF TONGVA, GABRIELENO, CHUMASH PEOPLE. CARPOOLING OR RIDE SHARE ENCOURAGED!

FREE PANEL  
SUPPORT FORT & UPGRADE FOR EGGNOG

5:00-5:30: ARRIVALS  
5:30-7:00: PANEL  
7:00-8:00: SOCIAL HOUR AND EGGNOG

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)



**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

# EVERY SCHOOL HAS A HOUSE

Mapping the Nearest Historic Residential Treasure  
for Every School in the Los Angeles Unified School District



## **GATHERINGS**

*Getting Together*



## **TRAILS**

*Urban Adventures*



## **FELLOWSHIPS**

*Supporting Studies*



## **FRAMES**

*Artists Go Inside*



## **GEMS**

*One Time Wonders*



# TRAILS OF THE CITY

A FIVE-RING FRAMEWORK  
FOR EXPERIENCING  
LOS ANGELES

A Collaborative, Neighborhood-Driven Cultural Initiative  
for the 2026–2028 World Events... and beyond!

## THE FIVE RINGS FRAMEWORK

The project will be organized around five thematic "rings." Rather than predefining those themes in advance, the rings will be shaped in response to the proposals received from neighborhoods and community leaders.

As trail proposals are gathered, FORT and an advisory group will identify the five overarching dimensions that most meaningfully organize the collective submissions.

Possible categories might include themes such as origins, homes, cultural corridors, imagination, innovation, or other frameworks that emerge from the city itself — but the final rings will be determined through review of the submitted proposals.

This approach ensures that:

- The structure reflects real community priorities
- The rings feel authentic rather than predetermined
- The initiative remains flexible and responsive
- The final framework represents a true portrait of Los Angeles

The Five Rings provide coherence.  
The content of those rings will emerge from the neighborhoods.

## TRAIL PROPOSAL PROCESS

### Outreach & Invitation

FORT, in partnership with the City, will:

- Identify priority and underrepresented neighborhoods
- Conduct outreach to community leaders and organizations
- Invite concise trail proposals

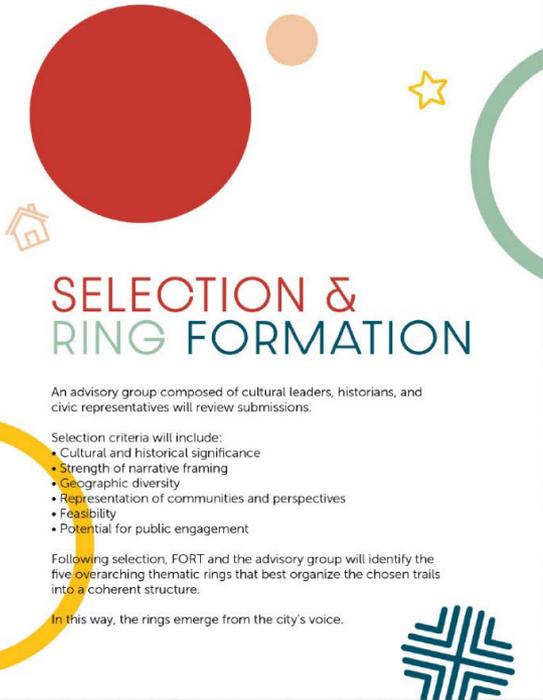
### Proposal Elements

Applicants will submit:

- Trail title
- Five sites within a neighborhood or thematic corridor and description of why each site is important
- A short narrative describing the significance of the trail
- A brief biography of the proposer or proposing organization

The emphasis is on clarity, cultural depth, and neighborhood relevance.

Applicants will not be required to align their proposal with a predefined theme. The thematic organization will be determined after submissions are reviewed.



## SELECTION & RING FORMATION

An advisory group composed of cultural leaders, historians, and civic representatives will review submissions.

Selection criteria will include:

- Cultural and historical significance
- Strength of narrative framing
- Geographic diversity
- Representation of communities and perspectives
- Feasibility
- Potential for public engagement

Following selection, FORT and the advisory group will identify the five overarching thematic rings that best organize the chosen trails into a coherent structure.

In this way, the rings emerge from the city's voice.



## TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Selected Trail Leaders will work with FORT to finalize:

- Five curated sites
- Interpretive text for each site
- A short framing introduction for the trail

FORT will provide:

- Content guidelines
- Editorial support
- Fact-checking and copyediting
- Standardized formatting
- Coordination with the City

The City will provide:

- Strategic guidance
- Support in outreach
- Funding
- Review for accuracy and representation

FORT serves as convener, editor, and steward — ensuring consistency while preserving authentic voice.



## VIDEO DOCUMENTATION

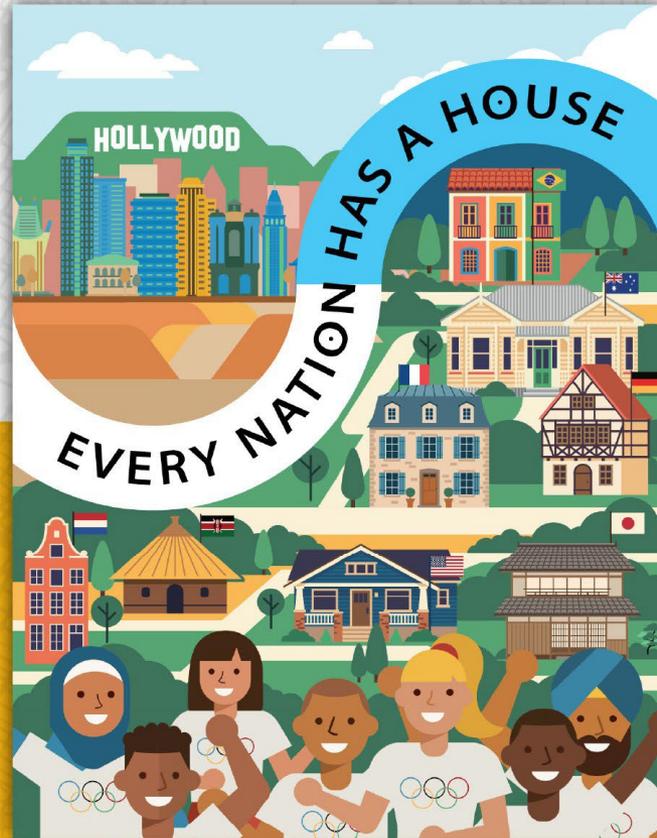
FORT will produce a short filmed conversation with each Trail Leader.

Each video will:

- Introduce the curator and their perspective
- Highlight the significance of the trail
- Provide context beyond the written text
- Serve as a digital storytelling asset

These videos will become part of the public-facing platform and serve as an archival record of neighborhood leadership and civic participation.

The project is not only a map — it is a living archive of voices.





In summer 2028, the world will arrive in Los Angeles. Every Nation Has a House is a city-wide cultural matchmaking initiative that pairs visiting national delegations with architecturally or historically significant homes across Los Angeles. Organized by Friends of Residential Treasures, Los Angeles (FORT, LA), the project offers international guests an intimate, meaningful introduction to the city—through its neighborhoods, its architecture, and its people.

But just as important as the architecture is the experience itself. Los Angeles is, at heart, a city of houses. Its most influential and characteristic architecture is residential, and the way people truly come to know this city is through the private spaces Angelenos open to one another. For generations, the social memory of Los Angeles has been shaped not by civic plazas or monumental squares, but by house parties—by driving down winding hillside roads, discovering a hidden home tucked into the landscape, stepping across a threshold into someone's private sanctuary, and feeling the unmistakable pixie dust of being welcomed inside.

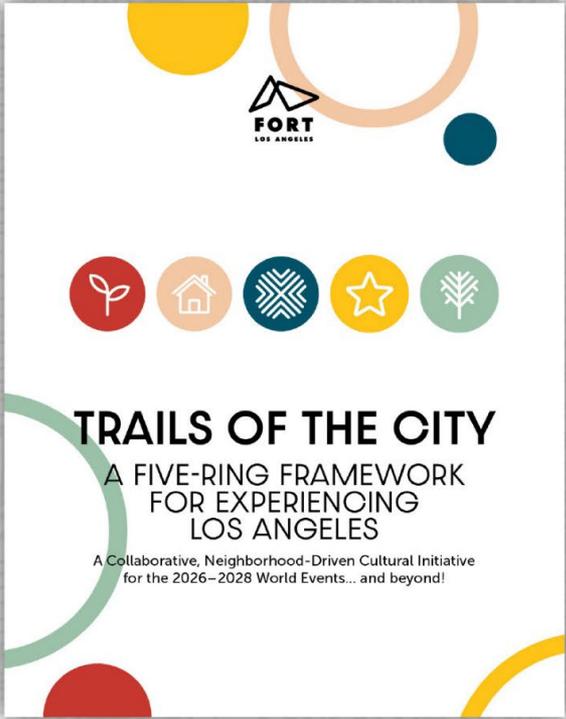
This ritual is profoundly and uniquely Los Angeles. To be invited into an LA house is to understand the city at its most personal: the intimacy of domestic space, the warmth of Angelenos as hosts, and the layered stories embedded in our built environment. Nations visiting in 2028 would not just see Los Angeles—they would be offered the rare chance to enter it.

And just as essential as the homes themselves is the journey to reach them. As Reyner Banham famously wrote, "I learned to drive in order to read Los Angeles in the original." The city reveals itself through motion—through the act of crossing its basins, canyons, boulevards, and freeways. Traveling to these homes allows visitors to experience the city the way Angelenos do every day, through movement, scale, and the unfolding of its hidden topographies.

Banham also observed that "Freedom of movement has long given life a special flavour there." That "flavour" is the atmosphere visitors will encounter on the way to each house: the quick shifts between micro-climates, the sudden drops into canyons, the rise into sunlight, the long curves that open to impossible views. This is how Angelenos read their city, how they socialize, how they dream—and how they remember.

Every Nation Has a House invites the world to experience the essential Los Angeles ritual:

the magic of the house, the journey to get there, and the shimmering, cinematic sense of possibility that arises when you experience the city in motion.



**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES

Icons: plant, house, geometric pattern, star, tree

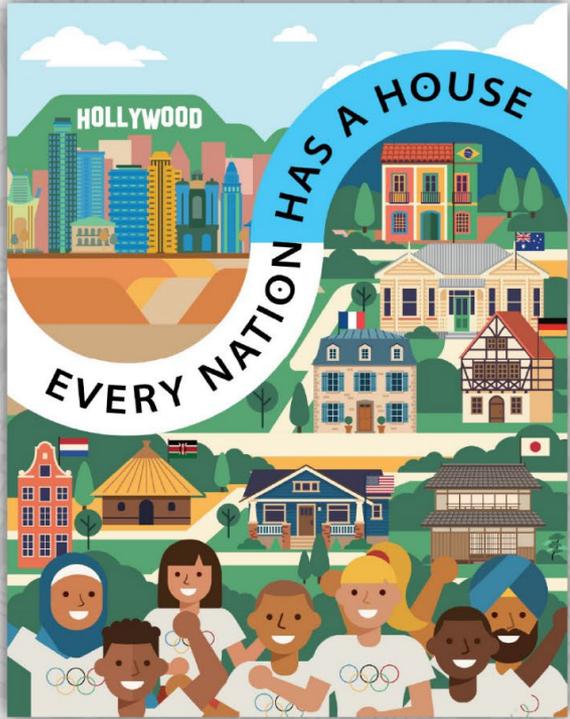
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**FORT**  
LOS ANGELES



HOLLYWOOD

EVERY NATION HAS A HOUSE

Illustration of diverse people and buildings from various cultures.

## Discussion Questions – LA Stories

- What neighborhood stories do we want to share more widely, and who can best tell my neighborhood's stories?
- What people and places in your community have unique connections to global nations whose visitors will be coming to Los Angeles?

## Discussion Questions – LA Cultural Trails

- If your neighborhood is prepared to welcome and encourage visitors, what would be included in a “cultural trail” for your community?
- What culturally and historically significant places would you like to see become more visible and legible?
- How would you want to guide both visitors and Angelenos to and through your community?

## Discussion Questions – LA Discovery App

- What are your community's needs in sharing information about your neighborhood's cultural and historic assets more widely?
- What types of app or shared technology options would be most beneficial to your efforts?